

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Oil Wells near Uherske Hradiste 2. Autopal Plant at Hluk	DATE DISTR.	24 September 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

- Oil wells are located south of Hluk, between the Hluk-Borsice road and the Borsicky Brook. This brook is about 2 km. from Hluk and 3 km. from Borsice. In the west is the Borsicky brook and in the east the Hluk-Borsice road. The oil wells area extends some 400 meters along the road; it is approximately 250 meters wide, entirely surrounded by wire fence (No. 1 on the diagram). The main entrance is at the Borsice-Hluk road about 150 meters from the edge of the plant (No. 2). A wooden gatekeeper's hut is nearby (No. 3), single-story. An oil dump is situated in the northeast corner, in a brick building, 60 x 10 meters (No. 4). The administration building with technical offices and management is not far from the store, also in a single-story brick building, 30 x 20 meters, L-shaped (No. 5). No. 6 is a connecting road with several branches. Two brick buildings, 40 x 20 meters, 8 meters high with metal roofs, stand in the northwest corner, some 30 meters one from another (No. 7).
- Between the buildings, in the western part of the site, is an oil derrick (No. 8) of metal, approximately 30 meters high, its base 4 x 4 meters and narrowing towards the top. From this tower pipes lead to the engine room and oil tanks. Drilling pipes and materials are stored in the open in the southwestern corner (No. 9). The engine room and pump for methane (natural gas) are in a building 25 x 15 x 8 meters (No. 10). Equipment is stored in a wooden hut north of the engine room. Rejected engines (sic) are kept there. (No. 11). Another derrick, originally an oil tower, for natural gas is in the southeastern corner. It is similar to the other oil tower (No. 12). The gas distribution center is located in a brick building, 30 x 10 meters next to this derrick (No. 13).
- From the distribution center a pipe line (No. 14) leads to the new Autopal plant at Hluk, the machines of which have been adapted to use methane. These pipe lines were laid in spring 1952 at the time when the construction of the Autopal plant was in progress. This plant now employs some 500 workers, working in three shifts. The methane gas is used especially for soldering and for heating

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC		ORR	Ev	X		
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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution indicated by "F")

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two furnaces. The pipes are made of metal and have a 20-cm. diameter. They run along the east side of the road, 1.5 meter under the surface.

4. The average output is four railroad tank cars of oil, which is pumped into the cars at the Kunovice railroad station. The output of methane gas is so high that the Autopal plant cannot consume it all. The oil is quite clean and is one of the best kinds found in Moravia. At first oil was quite near the surface and the deposit was discovered in 1951. Oil is found at a depth of 40 meters. The deposit of oil is so rich that a number of further derricks are to be set up. Construction of these installations began in 1951. In 1953 additional mining equipment was brought here. Future expansion is to include a new railroad track to Kunovice, 8 km. long, as the transfer of the oil from the tank trucks into the tank cars hampers operation. New test drillings started east of this plant, not far from a cherry tree lane. Oil was found but it was rather deep in the ground, therefore, exploitation will be possible only with special equipment.
5. There are mainly Slovaks employed as specialists in oil mining here, about 200, working in shifts.

Enclosures:

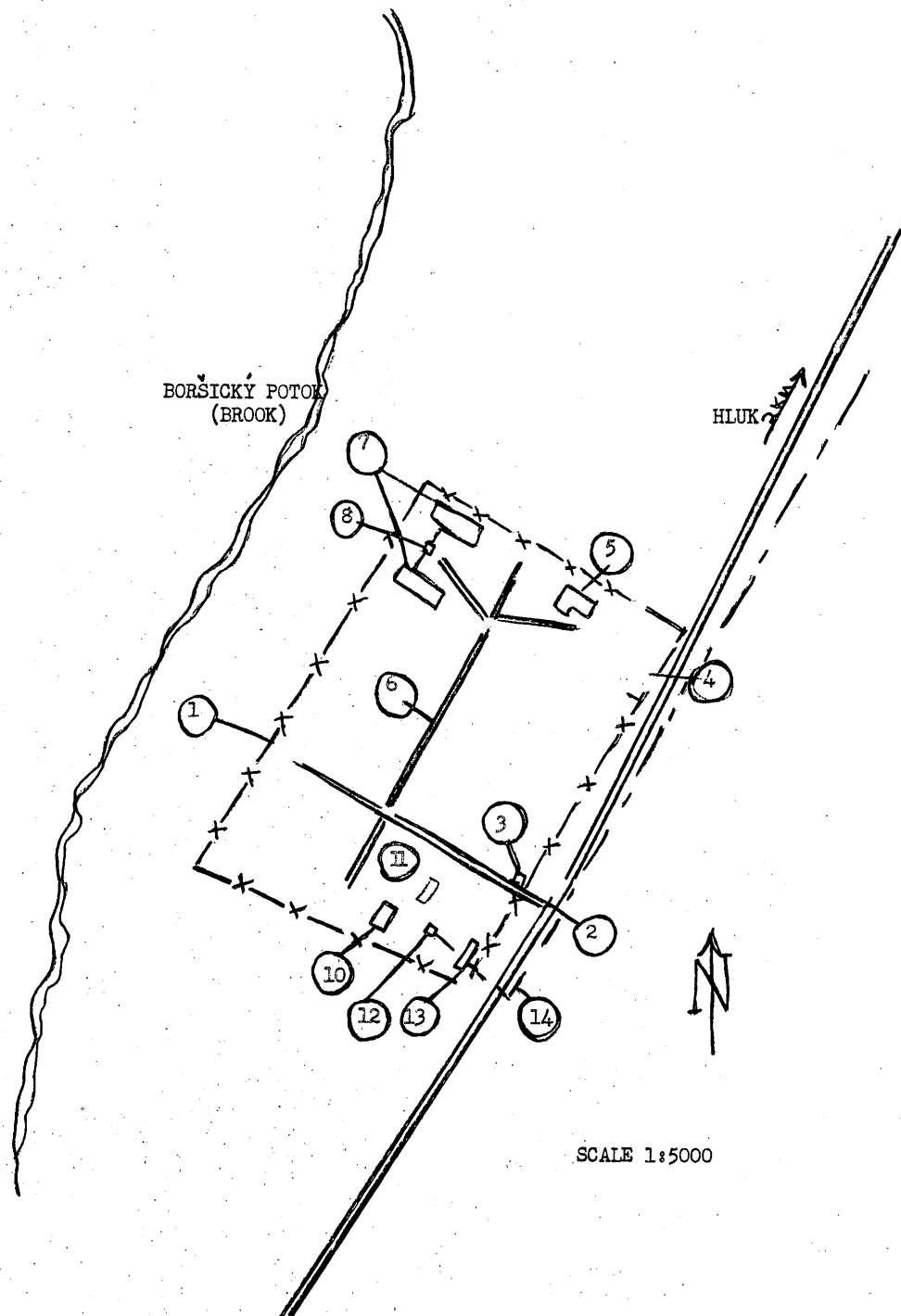
B. Sketch of oil derrick (1 page-ORR)

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